

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A food preserving method comprising the steps of:  
housing a conductive food tray (2) in a cooling box (1);  
placing a food (9) on the food tray (2); and  
cooling the food (9) with an AC voltage and a DC voltage being simultaneously applied to the food tray (2)  
wherein the DC voltage is a negative voltage.

Claim 2 (original): The food preserving method according to claim 1, wherein after a DC-AC simultaneous application period during which the AC voltage and the DC voltage are simultaneously applied, the food (9) is cooled with only one of the DC voltage and the AC voltage being applied to the food tray (2).

Claim 3 (original): The food preserving method according to any one of claims 1 and 2, wherein the cooling box (1) functions as a freezer for freezing the food (9).

Claim 4 (original): The food preserving method according to any one of claims 1 and 2, wherein the cooling box (1) functions as a refrigerator for refrigerating the food (9).

Claim 5 (currently amended): A food preserving device comprising:  
a cooling box (1);  
a conductive food tray (2) housed in the cooling box (1);  
an AC power supply (3) used for applying an AC voltage to the food tray (2); and  
a DC power supply (4) used for applying a DC voltage to the food tray (2),  
wherein  
the AC voltage and the DC voltage are simultaneously applied to the food tray (2)  
and the DC voltage is a negative voltage.

Claim 6 (original): The food preserving device according to claim 5, further comprising a control unit (5) that controls a voltage application to the food tray (2) by the AC power supply (3) and the DC power supply (4).

Claim 7 (original): The food preserving device according to any one of claims 5 and 6, wherein after a DC-AC simultaneous application period during which the AC voltage and the DC voltage are simultaneously applied, only one of the DC voltage and the AC voltage is applied to the food tray (2) by the control unit (5).

Claim 8 (original): The food preserving device according to any one of claims 5 and 6, wherein the cooling box (1) functions as a freezer for freezing the food (9).

Claim 9 (original): The food preserving device according to claim 7, wherein the cooling box (1) functions as a freezer for freezing the food (9).

Claim 10 (original): The food preserving device according to any one of claims 5 and 6, wherein the cooling box (1) functions as a refrigerator for refrigerating the food (9).

Claim 11 (original): The food preserving device according to claim 7, wherein the cooling box (1) functions as a refrigerator for refrigerating the food (9).